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The claims readable on the species shown in FIGS. 1-15 are claims 17-20 which have been elected and also new claims 21-24. Also, non-elected claims 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 read on the species shown in FIGS. 1-15.

REMARKS

THE SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

The specification has been amended in line 24 on page 19 to make a minor reference number correction. This does not constitute new matter because the correct number is readily apparent from the rest of the application specification and drawings as originally filed.

THE CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The amendments to claims 17 and 20 are not related to overcoming any prior art rejections.

Dependent claims 17 and 20 have been amended merely to use more consistent terminology.

New independent claim 21 more broadly sets forth certain aspects of the subject matter of original independent claim 17. New dependent claims 22-24 set forth certain features with more particularity.

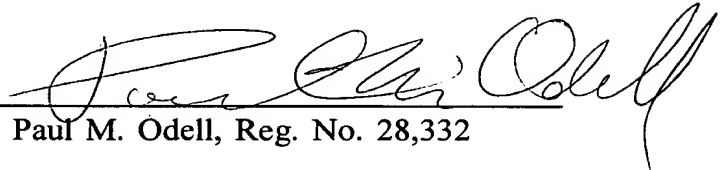
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Entry of the new claims 21-24 is respectfully requested, and an Office Action on the merits of claims 17-24 is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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By



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on December 6, 1999.



Paul M. Odell